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HEALTH MINISTER OPENS INT'L TB CONTROL SEMINAR

By A Staff writer

The International Seminar on Tuberculosis Control was inaugurated in Kabul this morning by Public Health Minister, Miss Kobra Noorzai.

The seminar, jointly sponsored by the World Health Organisation, International Children's Centre, UNICEF, and the International Union Against Tuberculosis is being attended by representatives from Afghanistan, Burma, India, Pakistan, Iran, Nepal, Thailand and Indonesia and Malaysia and representatives from UNESCO, WHO and IUT.

The seminar which will continue until April 26 was opened in the Public Health Institute auditorium.

In her inaugural speech Miss Noorzai thanked the International Children's Centre in Paris for the co-operation organising the tuberculosis seminar.

"Afghan-French technical cooperation based on the cultural relations between the two countries, is deep-rooted and is founded upon scientific and cultural principles", she said.

"The grave consequences of the World War II compelled the nations of the world to unitedly search for reasonable solutions to their joint problems. This led to the establishment of the United Nations. One of its organs, the United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF, was thus founded in 1946, with the main purpose of helping and protecting children's health."

"Two years later", she went on "the representative of our friendly country, France, proposed to the Executive Committee of UNICEF that France was ready to establish an International Children's Centre in Paris. The proposal was met with acceptance. Twenty years have passed since then and the centre in Paris has on the one hand tried to carry out extensive studies on child hygiene and to publish the results thus obtained in other countries of the world, and on the other it has strived to train technical personnel in different fields of pediatrics for all the countries."

"The International Centre for Children has held useful seminars and conferences in 125 African, Latin-American, Asian and European countries", she said.

"The International Centre, has earnestly tried to distribute useful publications in all the countries of the world. One such publication is 'The Practice of BCG Vaccination', by Professor Mande, who is fortunately among us today in this very hall", she said.

"The prevention of disease and the development of environmental sanitation were known long ago during the time of the great Moslem philosopher, Ebne Seena of Balkh, who has been given the title of the Prince of Medicine by international scientific circles, because of his valuable services in the field of medicine", Miss Noorzai said.

"Referring to the main problems of health in the developing countries, she said that communicable diseases have not yet been eradicated, but the campaign against them 'is rapidly progressing'."

"One such disease is tuberculosis which is closely connected with socio-economic standards of the people in any given country."

"The health authorities in Afghanistan, which is an old member of the World Health Organisation, have tried for many years to draft and implement health plans in different parts of the country", she said, adding, "The Ministry of Health will spare no efforts to combat tuberculosis in order to save the people from this devastating disease."

"We believe that the friendly countries, the United Nations Organs, especially WHO, are in full concurrence with us."

She thanked WHO and UNICEF for "continued and praiseworthy assistance."

Prof. Raymond, of the International Children's Centre touched on the International Children's Centre and said that since 1950, it has devoted its activities to the promotion of the physical and mental health of children.

"This Centre has, so to speak, a father and a mother: its father is the French Government which proposed its creation, which houses it in Paris and which provides half its budget; its mother is UNICEF which provides the other half of the budget and which helps it in its international operation", he said.

"The doctrine of the Centre is to consider the child as a whole and to study all aspects of the medical, psychological and social problems relating to childhood; in short the centre enables all people of all countries and in all fields concerned with children to meet and exchange views", he said.

Dr. K. L. Hitz, TB Adviser, Regional Office for South East Asia, WHO said that tuberculosis, and "especially pulmonary tuberculosis, is according to the statistical information available, the most frequent cause for hospital admission among the communicable diseases in Afghanistan."

"Recognising the problem which tuberculosis means to the people, the World Health Organisation already in 1954 started giving assistance—by then helping, to establish the Chaman Tuberculosis Clinic in Kabul as a tuberculosis demonstration and training centre. With the help of this center, it was possible already in 1956 to provide with UNICEF's assistance, domiciliary treatment services for tuberculosis in the capital on a free of charge basis."

"However, tuberculosis is an ubiquitous disease and if this disease is to be controlled finally, a programme must be implemented which in time would cover the whole of the country."

"However, tuberculosis is not the only widespread health problem in Afghanistan and, therefore, the need for health services in general is very great in the country."

"So, whenever and wherever health services are existing or developing and expanding to the periphery in order to serve the people who suffer, tuberculosis control work must be part of the daily routine that is carried out by the health staff."

(Continued on page 4)



Their Majesties on arrival in New Delhi on April 18, 1969 for a day's visit to the capital on their way back to Kabul were welcomed at the Delhi airport by Indian President, Dr. Zakir Husain, Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

Iraq sticks to border pact with Iran

BEIRUT, April 21. (Reuters).—Iraq announced yesterday that it considers the 1937 border agreement with Iran on navigation rights along the Shatt-el-Arab river still valid and binding to both countries. Baghdad radio reported.

Iraq Saturday declared the agreement null and void because, it claimed, Iraq had violated its principles and committed acts of aggression against Iran.

A Baghdad radio broadcast, monitored here, said the Iraqi government informed Iran last night that it deemed the agreement still valid. The radio said the Iranian ambassador in Baghdad was summoned to the foreign ministry late last night and informed of the Iraqi government's decision.

The ambassador was told that the Iraqi government considered Tehran's statement declaring the treaty null and void was "a unilateral action contradicting the principles of international law and the principles of international agreements and treaties."

The Iranian envoy was also told: "The Iraqi government reserves its full right in taking legitimate measures to preserve its territorial integrity", the radio added.

Reports from Tehran yesterday said there had been Iranian troop concentrations along the Shatt-el-Arab border region and the Iranian armed forces had been placed on alert.

Iraq's deputy foreign minister, Khosrow Afshar, said in a senate

speech Iraq was claiming the waterway, where the Tigris and Euphrates rivers run into the Persian Gulf, as Iraqi territory.

He alleged Iraq had disregarded Iran's rights, failed to pay a share of navigation dues and committed acts of aggression.

He warned that Iran would take all necessary steps to safeguard its interests. Responsibility for any incidents would lie with the Iraqi regime.

Baghdad radio quoted an Iraqi foreign ministry spokesman as saying that Afshar's allegations were "serious statements which will have serious repercussions on the current relations between the two countries", called "Arabistan".

Relations between Iran and Iraq—strained over the disputed Shatt-el-Arab river border region—have ebbed and flowed over the last 10 years.

Before the coup that toppled the Iraqi monarchy in 1958, relations between the two countries were strong and they were joined under the Baghdad Pact (now the Central Treaty Organisation) with Pakistan, Turkey and Britain.

But relations became strained after the late Iraqi Premier General Abdel Karim Qassem came to power following the coup. He withdrew from the pact and laid claim to a region in southern Iran which he called "Arabistan".

Egypt reports successful raid on Israeli positions

CAIRO, April 21. (Reuters).—A commando unit from Egypt crossed the Suez Canal last night and killed or wounded 30 Israeli soldiers in a fierce two-hour engagement in occupied Sinai, a military communique said yesterday.

The communique was issued by the army spokesman—which indicated the crossing was by a special unit of the regular army. Non-army guerrilla groups usually announce their own raids.

The unit crossed the waterway—scene of 12 days of artillery clashes—in the region of Ismailia, the near-deserted port midway along the canal.

According to the communique, the commandos stormed a fortified position and held it for two hours despite Israeli counter-attacks with tanks. One Israeli tank was knocked out and the commandos returned with two wounded, it said.

Tel Aviv, however, reported that Israeli troops foiled the commando raid. It said the commandos were driven off after a brief gun battle, leaving behind explosives and arms.

Israeli planes also struck with rockets at a Jordanian village during an artillery and mortar battle across the river Jordan yesterday, a Jordanian military spokesman said.

The air attack came during a three-hour artillery and mortar duel which followed an hour-long clash in the valley's northern sector.

The spokesman, who reported one Jordanian wounded, said the shooting was started by the Israelis. There were no Jordanian casualties in the first exchange.

The Jordanian spokesman said that at the same time two Israeli fighter planes made a 10-minute attack on the area of Zammal village in Irbid governorate using rockets.

Egyptian newspapers, led by the

semi-official Al Ahran have meanwhile been calling more and more insistently for the past two weeks for effective military strikes in addition to the shelling of the Israeli positions east of the canal.

Egyptian officials do not dispute that the policy is now to harass the Israelis by "active self-defence" which means shooting whenever they show heads and pounding their fortifications and rockets sites.

But Mohammad Hassanein Heykal, editor of Al Ahran spoke at the need for a major battle in which 10,000 to 20,000 Israelis might be killed.

OAU fails to convince Biafra to reunite with Nigeria

MONROVIA, April 21. (Reuters).—Biafra has turned down an appeal from the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) for an immediate ceasefire and negotiations on a United Nations, it was announced here yesterday.

The disclosure was made in a communique issued by the OAU Consultative Committee on Nigeria which has held talks with Biafran and Federal Nigerian delegations here over the past two days in an effort to find a peaceful solution to the Nigerian civil war.

The meeting was the latest of several unsuccessful talks held by the committee—comprising Cameroun, Congo-Kinshasa, Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, and Niger—in a search for a compromise settlement.

Federal Nigeria maintains that Biafra must renounce the secession it declared nearly two years ago and must hold talks on a permanent solution before a ceasefire. But the Biafrans demand an unconditional ceasefire before talks.

The communique said the committee had urged that the "two parties of the civil war accept, in the supreme interest of Africa, a united Nigeria which ensures all forms of security and guarantees of equality of rights and privileges to all its citizens."

"Within the context of this agreement, the two parties accept an immediate cessation of the fighting and the opening without delay of peace negotiations."

The committee offered its good offices to facilitate any such negotiations.

The communique noted "with satisfaction" that the federal government of Nigeria accepted the proposals, but "regrets that the representatives of Colonel Ojukwu (the Biafran

Senate approves Japanese loan

KABUL, April 21. (Bakhtar).—The House of Representatives in its general meeting yesterday presided over by Dr. Abdul Zaher, the president, approved articles 12 to 19 of the draft law on the advocates. The approval came after thorough study and exchanges of opinion by the deputies.

Meanwhile, the Senate in its general meeting yesterday, presided over by Senator Abdul Hadi Dawl, the president, approved the 72 million yen credit (\$ two million) loan from Japan for the construction of water supply and drainage systems in Kabul, Herat, Kandahar, and Mazare Sharif.

The Financial and Budgetary Affairs Committee of the Senate, presided over by Senator Mohammad Hussain Yaf Farahi, discussed the changes in the Third Five Year Development Plan and submitted its decision to the secretariat for consideration by the general meeting.

Rains cut off communication in Bamian, Takhar

BAMIAN, April 21. (Bakhtar).—The recent rainfall in Bamian province has resulted in the closing of traffic between the capital of Bamian and Panjab. There was 45 cm. of snow in Panjab and seven m. in Yakulung.

A report from Takhar province says that rainfalls have cut telephone communications between the capital of the province with its districts.

A report, however from Kandahar says that rains have increased the water in subterranean canals and in dry farming areas.

200,000 visit Afghan display in Tokyo

KABUL, April 21. (Bakhtar).—So far more than 200,000 people have visited the Afghan exhibition in Tokyo which was opened by His Majesty in Mitsukoshi department store last week.

Afghan handloom and handicrafts, embroidery, dried fruits and carpets are on display.

KABUL, April 21. (Bakhtar).—M. Momel the former principal of the Isteqlal Highschool was the guest of honour in a reception given in his honour by the ambassador of France, Andre Negre, in the French embassy yesterday. Dr. Mohammad Anas, the Minister of Information and Culture, and some of his former students attended.

NATO forces start 13-day exercises in Mediterranean

NAPLES, Italy, April 21. (Reuters).—About 6 warships and 300 aircraft of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) started 13-day manoeuvres in the Mediterranean yesterday in the presence of the strongest Soviet naval force ever seen in the area.

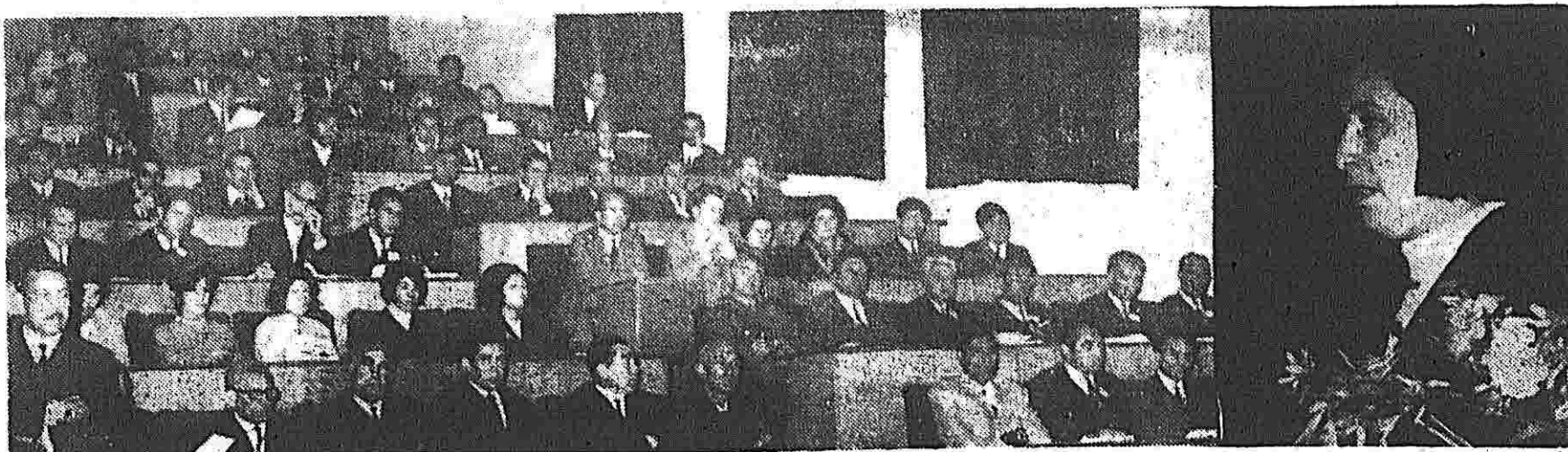
The NATO exercise, code-named "Dawn Patrol", is the biggest in recent years.

Ships and aircraft of the United States, Britain, Italy, Greece and Turkey will be deployed across almost the entire sea in a series of mock warfare engagements.

A NATO spokesman said here yesterday that the ships were assembling in the Mediterranean south of Turkey for the first phase of the exercise.

"Today it is mainly a question of getting into formation. The exercise does not begin properly until tomorrow", he said.

The manoeuvres start only two days after U.S. navy admiral Horacio Rivero, allied forces commander in southern Europe, warned that the Soviet presence in the Mediterranean had grown sevenfold in the last five years and its fighting strength had reached an all-time high.



Miss Kobra Noorzai, Minister of Public Health, addressing the opening session of the International Seminar on the Control of Tuberculosis.



THE KABUL TIMES

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Food For Thought

Art is a human activity having for its purpose the transmission to others of the highest and best feelings to which men have risen.

Tolstoi

Big 4 consultations

While consultations on the Middle East between the four big powers is continuing, military clashes on much bigger scale than ever before are taking place almost daily along the Suez Canal and in the Jordanian sector. Possibly the two events are inter related. The countries of the region wish to show that the need to solve the Middle East crisis is urgent, and the prolongation of the impasse in peace efforts will further harm the situation.

This is only a possibility. The main fact is that such intensive military clashes should show the four powers and the rest of the world that the situation is very critical. No one at this stage knows how long these negotiations among the four powers will take, and how soon reasonable solutions acceptable to all the parties concerned in the region will be found.

It is true that other international developments, like the tension in the Sea of Japan and Vietnam have profound impact on the course of talks among the four countries. A sudden emergence of a new international crisis could result in the discontinuation or interruptions of these talks which must take place in an atmosphere of goodwill and understanding.

Since this is the case, the military clashes in the Middle East, instigated by Israeli provocations, can not be expected to put pressure on these consultations. The danger is that small clashes may suddenly expand. These clashes show that as soon as firing is opened up larger reinforcements are rushed in, thus increasing the threat of another full scale war. It is all the more serious because the military in the concerned countries are on alert, and careless handling of this crisis could blow up into a major war.

Arab nationalism can not be quieted down, and withdrawal of occupation forces from the Arab lands is the only solution that can lessen tension in the region. Israel's policy of reprisals has several times created critical moments in the area.

It is almost certain that the big four powers will call for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab lands. That is the first major step for peace we do hope that the big four will speed up their consultations and try to reach a solution. The present status is imbued with danger, probably much greater dangers than the events preceding the June 1967 war.

HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

health of mothers and children, said the editorial, should benefit from the assistance of international organizations such as UNICEF to better serve the purpose for which they have been set up.

Hesvrad yesterday carried an editorial on the international seminar on tuberculosis which was opened in Kabul today.

It welcomed the seminar and enumerated its advantages and the fact yesterday's *Ishtah* carried the following letter to the editor: Last Tuesday I witnessed a scene in one of the private laboratories on Jadedi Maiwand. It was a quarrel between a patient and the laboratory proprietor.

"The patient who was a pale looking youth claimed that the technician by acquiring money from someone who did not want the patient to live had come out with an incorrect blood and urine analysis.

"The physician acting on the basis of this false analysis had prescribed medicine which instead of curing him had worsened his condition. The brawl started when the patient complaining to the laboratory technician who in turn snatched all the medical papers recording the episode.

"The waiting room was full of other patients when this happened and the patient requested them to help in regaining the documents from the technician who lost his nerves and started eating the papers.

"While the desperate patient and others looked on the technician with a mouthful of pulp disappeared in the toilet to wash the pulp down the drain. The patient has applied to the police for assistance. The result of police investigation is not known yet.

"I am writing this letter in order to draw attention of authorities concerned to take necessary steps in order to avoid the repetition of such criminal acts in the future," said the letter which was signed, Mohammad Khan Sayem.

The same issue of the paper carried an editorial on family guidance clinics, Afghan families, especially in villages are confronted with enormous difficulties in protecting the health of mothers and children.

These problems arise not so much from a lack of food or preventive measures to safeguard the health of mothers and children as from a lack of understanding of how to utilise the available means.

Nourishing food does not necessarily have to be expensive, said the editorial. It is here that the family guidance clinics are useful.

Population control is another problem with which almost all the developing countries are confronted. The family guidance clinics can play a useful role in this connection as well.

Since representatives of international organizations such as the who are participating in the seminar it makes it possible for them to recommend measures for assisting TB campaigns in member countries.



Editorials appearing in Singapore newspapers during the current 25th session of the U.N. Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East reflect the conference theme of regional economic cooperation.

Singapore's *Sin Chew Jit Poh* editorial said: "The interests of the regional wealthy nations are basically inconsistent with those of the developing countries, and the most we could expect is to try to minimise their inconsistencies. To expect the wealthy nations to prove unconditional aid to developing countries at their own expense or to pin the hope for development on the goodwill of industrial nations is an incorrect thinking.

"Therefore, the current session of the ECAFE conference would be wise to explore all possible avenues of development on the basis of self-help. The future would indeed be fraught with dangerous possibilities if the developing nations failed to evolve any concrete plans for development and merely relying on external aid to carry out their development programmes."

An editorial which appeared in the *Straits Times* of Singapore April 16 said in part:

"There is still hope of salvaging the development decade in Asia. Last year seems to have come 'as close as possible', says the annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.

"It is difficult not to welcome unreservedly the better rice crop. Nevertheless the report manages to raise a complaint or two, and find cause for concern. Remembering the eternal hope of annual ECAFE reports in the past, the new tone is welcome. It was a splendid year, no doubt of it. Unfortunately it is the war of our world that only an impossibly good win blows no ill to anyone.

A *Manvanya Siang Pau* editorial said in part: "The need for close cooperation between the developing nations in the region is obvious.

"In the interests of the region, it is fervently hoped that the current session of the ECAFE conference will concentrate its efforts on the laying of a foundation for regional

economic cooperation instead of indulging in meaningless and time-consuming discussions.

An editorial in *Eastern Sun*, Singapore, on April 16, said in part:

"The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East is meeting in Singapore after a gap of twenty years. The current session is significant to Singaporeans especially since it coincides with the 150th anniversary celebrations of the republic.

"The growth of the island from a tiny fishing village into an industrial complex is no mean achievement. If Singapore can grow, there is no reason why other countries cannot develop as fast or even faster with the concept of bilateral, regional and international cooperation.

"The activities with which ECAFE is concerned.

The government soon will inform Washington it considers continued U.S. reconnaissance flights in the area necessary for Japan's security, the newspaper *Yomiuri* said Sunday.

Yomiuri said the government also plan to launch a publicity campaign to make the importance of the reconnaissance flights known to the public.

But, the newspaper said, the government should tell Washington that it wants the reconnaissance planes and their fighter escorts limited to international air space and that the United States should refrain from taking any action which may provoke North Korea.

Quoting foreign office sources, *Yomiuri* said the government plans to demand that if any reconnaissance plane or fighter escort from a U.S. base in Japan should invade North Korean air space, the United States should withdraw the invading plane from Japan.

Mutual Japan-U.S. trust would be destroyed if the United States violated North Korean air space, according to the government view, as reported by *Yomiuri*.

The newspaper quoted foreign minister Kishi Aichi as saying Japan's opposition parties were wrong in saying that Japan would be dragged into war because of the presence of U.S. forces in Japan.

State of Brunei

Sultan refuses to give up protected status

The tiny, prosperous Moslem state of Brunei remains an unyielding force in the side of British policy by its refusal to give up its position as a protected state.

While less stable colonies and dependencies around the world battle for independent national status, leaders in Brunei are struggling to remain a British protectorate—despite London's announced intention of withdrawing all its defence forces from Southeast Asia by the end of 1971.

Sir Omar Ali Saifuddin, the former Sultan and now chief advisor to his 22-year-old son, Sultan Hassanali Bolkiah, made plain in an audience with a Reuters correspondent that Brunei wished to continue its 80 years under British protection.

He said Brunei, with a population of 130,000, would not be satisfied for the time being—despite British views to the contrary—with any alternative to the 1959 arrangements under which Britain remains responsible for the defence, foreign affairs and security of the state.

In the presence of British high commissioner A.R. Adair, who is also an advisor to the Sultan, Sir Omar said bluntly: "We will not be content with just hoping to persuade the British to modify their withdrawal plans, but we will do all we can to influence Britain to stay."

Britain has been pressing for a democratically elected government in the tiny state, which is in fact cut in half by a sliver of Malaysia Sarawak territory.

But ironically, the still weak opposition Brunei People's Independence Party (BAKER) which urges independence now, does not believe the British want to go.

Some influential British resi-

ents in Brunei wonder if Sir Omar, who they say, still wields most of the power in Brunei despite his abdication in his son's favour in 1967, in fact, is stalling in the hope that the Conservative Party will regain power in Britain soon and reverse—or at least alter—the withdrawal policy.

Sir Omar said it was his own personal belief that full parliamentary democracy in the state is 20 years away.

Many saw his abdication as a response to British pressure for increase political development, but the former Sultan denies this, saying he told close friends in 1958—when he was 50—and again in the following two years of his intention to hand over to his son when he had completed his education and seemed ready to rule.

The royal family will go to Britain for a private visit in late May, but so far no arrangements have been announced for talks with British officials. However, Britain is expected to try to arrange discussions in advance of the five-nation common in the area defence talks in Canberra in June.

Informed sources said it was Sir Omar who broke off talks about the future of Brunei in London last year when British stressed that her battalion of Gurkhas would be transferred to Hong Kong in 1971 and her signals support would be withdrawn.

London said British officers would remain so long as Brunei wanted them with the well-equipped 900-man royal Brunei Malay regiment.

Brunei, with its 100 million sterling reserves in oil income, currently pays for the upkeep of the Gurkhas—and also the British high commission.

lish high commission.

The Gurkhas were sent to Brunei as a result of the abortive but bloody 1962 anti-government revolt led by Sheikh Ahmad Azahari. But opposition leaders now say they recognise Azahari methods as "too harsh, too sudden", and they want political progress by constitutional means.

Said Sir Omar: "If it were merely a question of replacing the Gurkhas, that would present no problem. But what is more important is the question of Brunei's overall defence. Even if half the male population of Brunei were to join the armed forces, Brunei would not be able to defend herself."

"It would be most unwise of the Brunei government to accept withdrawal without making strong representations. Brunei has had such a long and close association with Britain...and throughout British protection Brunei has enjoyed peace and prosperity since 1888."

He rejected association with Malaysia. The breakdown of federation talks in 1963—when Sarawak and Sabah joined the Malaysian federation—and Malaysia's subsequent withdrawal of seconded personnel and troops left some bitterness in Brunei.

He also rejected joining with Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand and Britain in a new defensive system to be discussed in Canberra.

Brunei has no plans, rather has Brunei any intention of joining in the five-power arrangement, Brunei will continue to persuade the British government to change its attitude," he said.

But British representatives in Brunei restated London's determination to stay in its withdrawal schedule.

Deadlock in Paris talks

Hanoi, NLF reexamining their strategy

There is a widespread belief in Paris that North Vietnam and the National Liberation Front are re-examining their strategy and that the Vietnam peace talks will remain at a standstill until their study is concluded.

This belief appears to be supported by a number of factors, including what has been generally interpreted as stalling and indecisiveness on the part of the North Vietnamese and the NLF representatives.

It also is bolstered by the departure of the deputy NLF delegate, Mme. Nguyen Thi Binh, on her "mission to Moscow" and certain other capitals, presumably including Peking. "She will proceed to Hanoi after these consultations.

Added to these factors is the continued presence of North Vietnam's policy coordinator, Le Luc Tho, in Hanoi where he has been since the beginning of the February offensive. The belief here is that he will return to Paris when, and if, Hanoi is ready to unveil any important shift of strategy.

There is no indication how long the consultations will continue. Observers at the peace talks, however,

are agreed that such a shift offers the best hope for breaking the deadlock, whether through the formal sessions or through private discussions.

U.S. and South Vietnamese analysts believe the communists are being hurt in world public opinion by their tough political line and stepped-up military operations in the face of the allied peace offensive.

This conviction has been reflected both in the statements made by Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge and Pham Dang Lam, South Vietnam's representative, at the peace talks and by conciliatory moves in Washington and Saigon.

U.S. and South Vietnamese officials theorise that Mme. Binh's visit to Moscow and other capitals is for the general purpose of getting their views on possible strategy changes and, more specifically, to discuss steps to offset the wing of public opinion toward the United States and Saigon.

One of her main responsibilities is believed to be seeing that the NLF holds the sympathy of its supporters abroad.

Spokesman for Hanoi and the

NLF have given the impression of uncertainty recently when pressed for reaction to South Vietnam's offer for secret talks with the NLF, reports of possible unilateral troops withdrawals by the United States and moves toward Vietnamisation of the war.

One of the issues before their strategists is undoubtedly the fundamental question of whether to try to negotiate a peaceful settlement or whether to gamble on expanded military operations.

Statements at the peace talks have indicated they believe public opinion in the United States is against the war and that a growing impatience will force the Nixon administration to pull out no matter at what price.

U.S. and South Vietnamese sources say that this line, if not discarded in the current Hanoi consultations, could prolong the peace talks indefinitely while heavy casualties continue.

Since the preliminary talks began in Paris last May 13, there have been 11,116 American killed in accordance to unofficial tabulation.

(AP)

Iran-Iraq relations

Strained over disputed border region

Relations between Iran and Iraq—strained over the disputed Shatt-el-Arab River border region—have ebbed and flowed over the last 10 years.

Egypt and Syria, which do not have diplomatic relations with Iran at present, often accuse it of being influenced by Israel.

Observers here believe that Iran's relations with the Arab states generally are bound to remain in a state of dormant tension so long as Iran claims the oil-producing Persian Gulf state of Bahrain and the Arabs continue to allege that Israel influences Iran.

Before the coup that toppled the Iraqi monarchy in July, 1958, relations between Iraq and Iran were strong and they were joined under the Baghdad Pact (now the Central Treaty Organisation) with Pakistan, Turkey and Britain.

But relations became strained after the late Iraqi prime minister, General Abdel Kassem, came to power following the coup.

General Kassem withdrew from the pact, attacked imperialism and

laid claim to a region in southern Iran which he called "Arabistan."

General Kassem himself was killed in a military coup in February, 1963. The Baath regime which followed continued to antagonise Iran, accusing it of supporting the rebellious Kurds in northern Iraq.

Relations continued tense until November that year when President Abdel Salam Aref came to power. He improved relations, and this state of affairs was maintained by his brother and successor, President Rahman Aref, until he was ousted by the Baathists last July.

Lieutenant-General Taher Yahia, the Iraqi premier ousted last July, visited Tehran the month before and good neighbourly relations were re-established.

But recently the Baathists, in a televised interview with an arrested communist leader, charged Iran with supplying arms to Kurds.

There are several factors which should promote good relations between the two neighbours. They are the large Shi'ite communities in both countries, the intermingling Abbasid and Persian cultures and

common interests in the area.

Relations between Egypt and Iran were broken about nine years ago and have never been resumed. Egypt accuses Iran of being exploited by Zionism and claims that Israel has huge interests there.

Syria, which broke off relations with Iran in 1965, arrested two Iranian last year and accused them of spying. Syrian radio commentaries often attack Iran as a country where Israeli influence is enormous.

Iran and Saudi Arabia have often come into conflict because of claims they both laid to certain Persian Gulf territory.

But their relations have improved since King Faisal and the Shah signed an agreement last October which recognised the Saudi claim to Arabi island and Iran's claim to Farsi island.

While on a tour of India last January, the Shah reasserted his country's claim to the island of Bahrain on the Arabian side of the Gulf, but said Iran would never use force to acquire a territory against the will of the people.

(Reuters)

Singapore meeting

ECAFE told not to meddle in ASEAN affairs

Representatives from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) currently in Singapore for an annual Asian Economic Conference, yesterday met informally for the first time this year.

The corridor meeting of representatives from the five ASEAN countries—Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Indonesia—was their first contact as a group since ASEAN ministers met informally in Bangkok in Thailand in December

By Richard Paris

The meeting was arranged to discuss an announcement made by a member of the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) to the session Friday that ECAFE would call an early meeting of the ASEAN countries.

The announcement was not well received by delegates from the ASEAN countries, most of whom said that ASEAN was the concern of the member coun-

tries only and ECAFE—the largest of the United Nations area commissions—had no business meddling in its affairs.

The ECAFE official who made the announcement was the chief of the research and planning division, Hiroshi Kitamura.

He told Friday's session that ECAFE was to call an early meeting of ASEAN countries to discuss the organisation of a study of the association's development potentials.

(Continued on page 4)

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3rd Family Guidance clinic opens

By A Staff writer
Mrs. Nazifa Nawaz, director of the Maternity Hospital inaugurated the third Afghan Family Guidance Association Clinic in Bibi Mahro (a village on the airport road) on April 17.

In her inaugural speech Mrs. Nawaz said the establishment of similar centres in the provinces, too, was being considered.

The first Afghan Family Guidance Association centre was established within the Maternity Hospital last winter. The second clinic was opened in Karte Seh shortly after that.

Over 500 women have received guidance and treatment by the two clinics so far, Mrs. Nawaz said, adding each clinic has one physician and two social workers on duty.

Mrs. Nawaz was followed by President of the Kindergarten Association, Dr. Nizamuddin Shahzadeh who stressed the importance of concerted and coordinated activity of the family guidance centres with mother and child clinics.

He said experience shows that these two organisations which are both serving mothers and children can even operate as a complete unit. This arrangement is especially suitable for the developing countries where lack of physicians and trained assistants is always a problem.

A great deal of funds could be saved in the way of rentals and salaries if the two organisations operate from one major clinic, he stressed.

Dr. Shahzadeh appealed to mothers to make frequent use of the services provided by Afghan Family Guidance Association in order to protect themselves and their children against disease and malnutrition.

He said, family guidance clinics are there to provide assistance to women during the prenatal periods. This is why it is important for women to register themselves with the nearest clinic as soon as they detect the first signs of pregnancy.

A pregnant mother's diet can have an important effect on her child. Advice on the diet and other child care measures can be had freely from family guidance clinics. Interuterine devices are also available at these clinics as a measure of family planning on a voluntary basis.

Press On Women:

Step-children and step-mothers

By A Staff writer
It has been about a month since Miss Parwin Ahadi, a student in journalism department of the College of Letters has taken over the editorship of the daily *Ishtar*'s women page published every Wednesday.

In this short period Miss Ahadi has been able to bring a marked improvement in the content of special page by devoting the whole page entirely to women and children.

She has also been trying to feature very simple fashions for women and the editorials of the page, which usually discuss social problems have been very lively and easy to follow by women of different level of education.

In its most recent issue *Ishtar* women's page discussed a very common problem in this country: sister and brother who have lost their mother and now live with their father and step-mother.

Shafiqah, says the author of the



Mrs. Nazifa Nawaz opening the new AFG clinic.

Women's Institute holds annual conference

By Our Own Reporter

The Women's Institute yesterday afternoon held its annual conference. It was opened by Mrs. Nafisa Mobarez, director of the Enlightenment Department of the institute, who called attention to the changes in the legal and social status of women brought about under the new Constitution.

She said that the Women's Institute was pleased that today a great number of women are taking part in varied social activities but at the same time noted that there are still a great number of women all over the country who need education and protection.

She stressed in this regard that many men still don't recognise women's right giving them full equality under our society's civil and religious laws. Therefore, she said women must make it their duty to see that their rights are respected.

Mrs. Mobarez then said that the Women's Institute plans to hold fortnightly conferences to discuss all problems facing women in Afghanistan and to find the best ways to solve them.

After Mrs. Mobarez, the secretary of the House of Representatives, Mohammad Shah Ershad, spoke about women's rights under Islam. He said that all modern writers, lawyers say that un-

der Islam women have a right to betterment of society.

The next speaker to address the conference was Mrs. Maimoona Sahrayee member of the Faculty of Education, Kabul University, who said that no country can develop through the efforts of men alone.

Women must take part in this effort, too, she said. "And we are doing it at the moment," she noted. "We have a women in the cabinet, there are women representatives in parliament and there are women in all professions. But we must also think ab-



Maimoona Sahrayee

out the majority of women all over the country who are not educated. We must make every effort to reduce the rate of illiteracy.

She added, however, that in trying to raise their social status the women in Afghanistan should not blindly follow the social

New hopes for families with defective genes

A young wife went to a Chicago doctor with a disquieting request. She wanted to know if it was safe to have a baby. Although her own health was normal her three younger sisters had all been born mongoloid, the victims of a genetic disorder known as Down's syndrome.

By examination of the woman's chromosomes—the tiny cells which determine a person's heredity—the doctor was able to predict there was a 30 per cent chance of her children being mongoloid, too.

Until recently this might have ended the couple's hopes for a family. But the physician Dr. Henry L. Nadler of Northwestern University, held out a promise to them. One of the country's leading experts on genetic counselling, he was able to tell them that they need not have a defective child, and that they would most probably have a healthy one.

At a New York medical symposium, Dr. Nadler described the dramatic new advances which are being made to reduce the incidence of certain inherited birth defects—advances which have tremendous implications for Britain under the new Abortion Bill. When his Chicago patient became pregnant, he removed a minute amount of the amniotic fluid which surrounded the fetus by inserting a needle into the mother's abdomen under local anaesthesia. Since this fluid carries cells of the unborn child, it is possible to tell by laboratory examination whether these cells have any chromosomal abnormality. In this case he was able to predict with certainty that a baby-boy would be born with Down's syndrome.

The mother had a therapeutic abortion. Three months later she became pregnant again. This time tests showed the patient was carrying a normal baby girl, and after another five months she

customs of women in other advanced countries.

Rather she stressed, that they should not forget the traditions of their own country and always consider it their duty to work for the progress of all women in Afghanistan.

gratefully gave birth to a healthy daughter.

Another of Dr. Nadler's patients had an apparently healthy baby who suddenly died at the age of three months. Medical analysis showed that the infant had been born with Pompe's disease, a gene defect which affects the heart and inevitably causes death within the first six months of life. Further tests showed that the mother was an unknowing carrier of the disease and had a one in four chance of having other affected children.

Under Dr. Nadler's care, the woman "risked" a second pregnancy. Dr. Nadler took a sample of the amniotic fluid and was able to tell her that her child would be normal—which it was. On her third pregnancy, however, tests showed that this baby would have Pompe's disease and an abortion was performed.

"I am confident that before long the patient will be back for us to monitor another pregnancy, and that eventually she will have a second normal child," Dr. Nadler said in an interview. Anticipating controversy over the abortions which he recommends, the doctor describes his work as a very positive contribution to family planning, giving hope to countless couples who might otherwise be too fearful to risk having children.

"I used to get tired giving prospective parents a risk of one in four that they would have a defective child," he said. "Now I'm glad to be able to tell them yes or no."

(Continued on page 4)

Madam, My Madam

A RECIPE FOR SHOES

By Nokta Cheen

There are lots of women who don't know how to polish their husbands' shoes, the middle aged lady with a sophisticated taste of unbelievable idleness told me at the party.

"That is interesting. How do you polish your man's shoes?" I asked her matter of factly.

"Easy. It is a technique. One must have an innate feeling, a secret fire inside, a desire, a love to do something really special to be able to polish her husbands' shoes. You know what I mean," she philosophised.

"Yes, now you know what I mean. I got an intuition from the sublime authority of the universe on how to polish my husband's shoes when I became a housewife for the first time," she said.

"Well, but then how do you polish the shoes?" I asked impatiently. "Shoe polishing has three stages: cleaning, polishing, and shining."

But first you must have a full kit for shoe polishing. It should contain two toothbrushes to clean the edges of the shoes, three big shoe polishing brushes to clean, polish and shine the shoes and a piece of velvet to neatly, as I call it, after the polishing is over," she said.

"You also need soap, two towels, hot water and cold water, a big piece of cloth which should be spread on a special table upon which the operation must take place."

"Now to start polishing you should have ample time for the job. I mean something like three hours."

"Now, spread the cloth on the special shoe polishing table. Bring all your accessories. First wash the shoes with hot water. Rub it that gilly with one of the three brushes."

"Take the tooth brushes, rub the edges of the shoes. Then put the shoes in the sun so that they dry."

"If there is no sun, what then?" I asked.

"Put them beside the heater. Then

(Continued on page 4)



Ginger surprise

This simple and unusual sweet is one that everyone enjoys, whether he likes ginger or not! The ginger flavour is the rich one of biscuits or cookies, and so is subtle enough for most tastes.

For eight servings you need:
2 packets for one pound of ginger biscuits.

A shallow saucer of sherry in which to dip them.

1 pint thick cream.

First whip the cream stiffly.

Dip the first biscuit in the sherry, turning it so that both sides are flavoured. Remove it and spread one side with cream. Take a second biscuit, dip it in sherry as before, coat one side with cream and sandwich it to the first biscuit, creamed side to uncreamed side.

Place the biscuits on edge in a long shallow dish. Continue in this way till all the biscuits are sandwiched in the dish in a horizontal roll. Finally coat the whole roll with the rest of the cream.

Thin strips of chocolate-coated form an ideal decoration. So do shelled walnuts pressed into the ends of the roll.

In addition, crushed tinned pineapple, strained tinned fruit cocktail or thinly sliced bananas may be sandwiched between every other biscuit, as well as the cream, if you wish.

If you don't want too long a roll, halve it and place the portions side by side to make a square cake.

Let the dessert stand a few hours before serving—this allows the cream and sherry to soften the biscuits and give the dessert its delightful texture.



Woollen dresses inspired by Estonian folk motifs. Hand knitted stockings.



RA Kartini

April 21 has a significant meaning for Indonesian women. On that particular date the Indonesian women commemorate their compatriot who has rendered so much services, Raden Adjeng Kartini. She has led the Indonesian women from darkness to light.

Kartini was born on April 21,

Pioneer of women's rights in Indonesia

1879 Her father R. M. A. A. Sosroningrat was a regent of Djepara, Central Java. Kartini was born in a society dominated by conservative traditions.

Customs regarded woman's position as lower than that of man. Girls who had reached the age of 12 were not allowed to go out of the house. They were supposed to do all the household chores until they found a husband.

However, when they were married they still did not enjoy more freedom. Women were considered as pretty singing bird in its golden cage. Their principal duty was to take care of the husband, to do the cooking and to rear the children. Women were not allowed to participate in the husband's affairs.

Kartini went to "Europeesche School" a European school for Dutch children. Her schoolmates were then Dutch children. Different from the conservative traditions that chained the Indonesian women, at school Kartini associated freely with her schoolmates, boys and girls.

A question came to her mind: why were Dutch children so different from Indonesian children, es-

pecially the girls. The Dutch were free to have friends, free to do and to say anything. On the contrary, her own nation above all the girls were left behind and did not have any freedom.

Kartini decided to break the cull that hindered the Indonesian women from any progress. To realise the idea, her brother R. M. Sosroningrat, encouraged her to correspond with her friends in the Netherlands.

Soon after she graduated from the teacher's college her father permitted her to open a girls' school in the pendopo of the Kabupaten, her father's residence. Kartini then married R. M. A. Djodjaningrat, regent of Rembang.

After she became the regent's wife she enjoyed even more liberties. She further founded other girls' schools in Rembang and the surroundings. In these schools important subjects for women in particular were taught.

Kartini's complaints encouraged the birth of "etische politik" (ethical policy) of the Dutch government. A Dutchman who had stayed in Indonesia for a long time, van Deven-

ter, felt that his government had a debt of honour to the Indonesian people.

Encouraged by Kartini's complaints, he suggested to his government to give back some services in return to the Indonesians. He felt the presence of obligation vis-a-vis the Indonesian people for the good deeds they had done to the Dutch government.

These obligations should be cleared by giving services needed. The Dutch government was obliged to make efforts for Indonesia's progress.

Then the Dutch government did prepare to render some useful services to the Indonesians. After the book "Door Duisternis tot Licht" was published in S. Gravenhage, in 1913, Kartini Fund was founded.

The Fund was meant to aid founding and helping schools for girls.

Nowadays the Indonesian women have equal rights with their fellow-men both in political and social life. Beginning from the proclamation of independence of Indonesia on August 17, 1945, many Indonesian women hold positions in the Cabinet, Parliament, in Diplomatic Services, in the Direction of Political Parties, and in social institutions.

Compared with many Western and even Eastern countries, the number of women members in the People's Consultative Assembly and in the House of Representatives is relatively larger than in those countries.

However, when keeping in mind the role of the Indonesian women

(Continued on page 4)

All About Women

Madam My Madam

(Continued from page 3)

take up the shoe cream and apply as much as is necessary. Don't be stingy. Rub it well with the second brush so that it is spread thoroughly. Now put them for ten minutes next to the heater," she said.

"How long should I keep them when they are really wet?" I asked.

"Not more than 40 minutes. Otherwise the leather becomes dry and stiff," she said.

"Apply the cream again. It will make the leather softer. Now, rub and rub it and keep it for another 20 minutes.

"Now is the time for the polish. The real task. Use the bottom of the tooth brush. Take small quantities of the polish and rub it on the shoes. Then use the third brush and rub them with it. Now keep the shoes for at least 20 minutes.

"Now for the final. Rub the shoes with a piece of velvet, put a drop of water on the shoes. It will roll off like water off a duck's back," she said with great pride.

"How nice," I said.

"You should always polish your shoes this way. Every day," she said.

"That is fine. But madam, how do you manage to do the rest of your housework?" I asked.

"Oh, that is another story. I will tell you all about it at the next party," she said.

Airlines

TUESDAY

Ariana Afghan Airlines	DEPARTURES	FLIGHT TIME
Kabul Kandahar		
Beirut	FG 265	6600
Kabul Mazare Sharif		
Herat	FG 250	0800
ARRIVALS		
Herat-Mazare Sharif		
Kabul	FG 251	0835
Beirut-Kabul	FG 296	1730

Pharmacies

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Parwan, Karte Parwan
Ali Ahmad, Sarai Ghazni
Shahzadah sec, Sarai Ahmad
Shah
Sooma, Deh Buri
Khaybar, Karte Char
Bidar, Baghban Kucha
Ariana, Jade Maiwand
Sanayee, Share Nau
Baray, Jade Andarabi
Luqman, Jade Maiwand
Ehadi, Sayed Noor Mah Shah
Fariabi sec, Pashtoonistan
Bu Ali sec, Jade Maiwand
Karte Char and Pashtoonistan
General Medical depot.
Telephones 20528 and 41252.

Important Telephones

Police Station	—20
Traffic Department	—41700
Airport	—21283—20872
Fire Department	13
Telephone repair 29	

Weather

Skies in the northern, northeastern, northwestern and central regions will be cloudy. Other parts of the country clear. Yesterday the warmest area was Jalalabad with a high of 22C, 72F. The coldest area was North Salang with a low of -8 C, 19.5 F. Yesterday Kabul had 31 mm rain, Herat 2 mm rain, Mazare Sharif 1 mm rain, Kunduz 22 mm rain, South Salang 7 mm rain 98 cm snow, Ghazni 18 mm rain and Farah 8 mm rain. Today's temperature in Kabul at 11:00 a.m. was 11 C, 52 F with clear skies. Wind speed was recorded in Kabul at 6 knots.

Yesterday's temperatures:

Kabul	10 C	4 C
	50 F	39 F
Herat	17 C	63 F
	63 F	43 C
Mazare Sharif	17 C	10 C
	63 F	50 F
Kunduz	14 C	10 C
	57 F	50 F
Shahrak	9 C	-1 C
	48 F	30 F
Baghlan	15 C	9 C
	59 F	48 F
South Salang	-1 C	-6 C
	30 F	21 F
Ghazni	10 C	3 C
	50 F	37.5 F



ARIANA CINEMA:

At 2, 5, 7 and 9 p.m. American and Italian colour cinemascope film dubbed in Farsi SYRACUSE BESIEGED with Tonia Lutz, Sunday at 7 p.m. American colour cinemascope film THREE BITES OF THE APPLE in English.

PARK CINEMA:

At 2, 5, 8 and 10 p.m. American colour cinemascope film dubbed in Farsi THREE BITES OF THE APPLE with DEVID McCILAM and Silvana Kushina. Saturday By A Staff Writer

Viet Cong shoot down U.S. copter

SAIGON, April 21 (Reuters)—Viet Cong guerrillas have shot down an American helicopter killing all six men aboard, and bringing to 39 the number of helicopters lost in the past month.

A U.S. military spokesman, reporting the crash yesterday near the northern town of An Hoa, said that guerrilla fire hit a CH-46 medium haul helicopter, operated by the U.S. marines and destroyed it.

The United States has lost 2,543 helicopters in Vietnam since records were first kept in January 1961. Of these 1,353 have been lost in accidents and 1,084 shot down.

A total of 5,199 aircraft, including helicopters, have been lost by the Americans since January 1961, an average of five every three days.

A U.S. spokesman said that

5,682 U.S. troops had died accidentally in Vietnam, the vast majority of them in aircraft, representing 13 per cent of the total 39,750 Americans who have so far been killed.

No exact breakdown is kept of the total number of men killed in shot down aircraft but military sources agreed the figure was probably about 3,400.

Approximately 8,500 U.S. troops, therefore, have been killed in aircraft in Vietnam in the past nine years.

The worst helicopter crash occurred on April 4, this year when 24 men were killed and 49 wounded in CH-47 which crashed on take off. Twenty three of the dead were Vietnamese.

Guerrillas shelled Phuoc Binh, capital of Phuoc Long province, early Sunday wounding five South Vietnamese soldiers, a

government military spokesman reported.

He said 15 six foot rockets hit the town which is 76 miles northwest of Saigon and near the Cambodian border. Damage was reported light.

Another four rockets slammed into Nha Be fuel depot nine miles from Saigon, the spokesman said, but there were no damage or casualties.

South Vietnamese militia killed 15 guerrillas in northern Quang Tin province near the city of Tam Ky yesterday, the spokesman said.

He said only one of the government soldiers was wounded in the fight.

A new South Vietnamese political party held its first public meeting Sunday, and said it would consider joining a political alliance led by President Nguyen Van Thieu, if invited.

R.A. Kartini

(Continued from page 3)

they are still fighting for a greater possible number of women to sit in important government functions.

The international conference, which was first attended by Indonesian women after the independence proclamation was the First Asian Conference in New Delhi in April 1947, discussing the independence struggle of Asian countries. A number of seminars, conferences and meetings followed in which Indonesian women participated.

At present we have also women units in our Armed Forces with a special function and duty.

Though they have been sufficiently trained in military affairs, yet their task is more adjusted to their feminine character and nature, such as the women police who are especially in charge of juvenile delinquency, children's trial and moral transgressions.

Thanks to Kartini, the pioneer of Indonesian woman emancipation, the Indonesian women have reached progress.

Genetic defects

(Continued from page 3)

In most states of America, a therapeutic abortion to prevent the birth of a deformed child is still illegal. Hence, although most of the recent advances in genetic counselling have been made in this country, the work of Dr. Nadler and his colleagues is almost unknown outside a highly specialised branch of the medical profession.

At the New York symposium—held to stress the need for wider genetic counselling—it was pointed out that although there are now 114 centres where couples can get such advice in the United States, only about six of these centres will go on to recommend hospital abortions.

Rioting erupts in N. Ireland during civil rights sit-in

LONDONDERRY, Northern Ireland, April 21, (Reuters).—Tension eased in this city of civil strife last night after police withdrew from the Bogside district, scene of all-night rioting that left 260 people injured earlier Sunday. British troops have been rushed to the scene.

The violence—worst since unrest flared into clashes here last October—began Saturday night after civil rights supporters staged a sit-down in their continuing campaign to secure equal treatment for the Roman Catholic minority in this British province.

It developed into a massed battle with the police. At one stage the demonstrators laid siege to a police station. Later they threw petrol bombs at a police vehicle and police fired shots into the air.

In all, 131 police were injured and 79 civilians, according to official estimates. Thirteen police and eight civilians were kept in hospital.

At one stage the city looked set for another night of violence.

Residents of Bogside gathered on street corners jeering at the strongly reinforced police. Once, police drew batons and chased a crowd of several hundred. No one was injured.

Then the people of Bogside trooped out of their predominantly Catholic quarter in a mass exodus to attend a meeting called by the Anglican clergy and local politicians to appeal for peace.

Spokesman warned the police that if they were still there when the people returned to Bogside, anything could happen.

But church leaders, including the Anglican bishop of Derry, Dr. Charles "Yvonne" acting with local member of parliament John Hume, persuaded the police to withdraw.

At the mass meeting, several thousand strong, militants called

for a one-day strike in the city today and a showdown with the police if necessary.

Federal troops about to attack Biafra's Umuahia

LAGOS, April 21, (Reuters).—Federal Nigerian troops supported by 105 mm howitzers, yesterday appeared poised for a final attack on the Biafran stronghold of Umuahia after a three-week offensive.

But federal army chief of staff Brigadier Hassan Usman Katsina said yesterday afternoon that there was no confirmation of reports that Umuahia had fallen to men of the first division commanded by Colonel Mohammad Shuwa.

Two battalions of the first division have for more than a week held positions on roads from the east and north within 14 kms of the Ibo city.

The International Committee of the Red Cross announced four days ago it had evacuated its headquarters at Umuahia and unofficial reports say the city has been deserted by its breakaway administration and refugee-swollen civilian population of several hundred thousand.

Informed sources said that, despite the reports of evacuation, the federal army appeared intent on consolidating its positions and moving forward carefully.

No fresh activity was reported here yesterday by the army's second and third divisions commanded by Lt. Col. Ibrahim Haruna and Col. Benjamin Adaku.

The second division is reported to be reorganising on Biafra's west near the river Niger, while the third division controls a 160 kms southern front from the Niger to the cross river.

ECAFE

(Continued from page 2)

He added that ECAFE was trying to organise the study because it believed such a study would strengthen ASEAN's resolve to carry it through its present troubles.

ASEAN has recently run into difficulties following the suspension of diplomatic relations between Malaysia and the Philippines over Manila's claim to the Malaysian North Borneo state of Sabah.

When asked Friday to comment on the announcement, delegates from ASEAN countries sharply rapped the United Nations body for meddling. However, Saturday they seem to have had second thoughts.

Malaysia, in a statement to the session, expressed its thanks to the secretariat "for its proposed study of the problems of harmonisation and cooperation among ASEAN countries."

An Indonesian delegate who spoke later told the session: "My delegation is in favour of such a study."

According to informed sources the corridor meeting later agreed that procedures should be made clear particularly that ECAFE could not call a meeting of ASEAN but that it could make a suggestion.

The sources said the secretariat has advised the ASEAN countries that it had no intention of giving the impression that it was running ASEAN and that the error was due to an unfortunate use of words.

According to the sources, the meeting also agreed to consider the ECAFE proposal for an early meeting to discuss the organisation of the study.

(REUTERS)

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World news in brief

LONDON, April 21, (Reuters).—An envoy to the Irish republic, died here Sunday. He was 91.

Tuberculosis

(Continued from page 1)

Dr. J. S. Sodhy, Director, Tuberculosis Control Division, Kuala Lumpur, and President of the Oriental Region of the International Union Against Tuberculosis said that there was a frightening situation in the Eastern Region of the International Union Against Tuberculosis.

"We have a population of more than 1000 million in this part of the world. A most conservative estimate of the prevalence of tuberculosis suffering in this population is 0.2 per cent which works out to two million cases of tuberculosis, he said.

"We will take only the lower figure—half a million deaths a year—one death every minute of the day—Yes, that is what it works out to, because it takes only half a million minutes to make one year. So during this one week when we are having this Seminar on Tuberculosis Control in Kabul, 10,000 persons will die of tuberculosis in this region," he said.

"Isn't this good enough reason for us to take some positive steps here in Kabul to stop this needless suffering, these needless deaths?" he added.

Dr. Abdullah Omar, deputy minister of health and Yasin Khosi, programme director of UNESCO in Kabul also spoke.

MANIFESTATION CULTURELLE

du KADS

Les poètes français contemporains
Montage D' Alain lebeau
Musique: B. Loynab, D. Choukour, P. Hosterman, E. Kittrell.

Le tableau
Piece en 1 acte de E. Ionesco
Mise en scene de G.M. Carbou
"Saisons" Exposition Simone Choukour
Auditorium du British Council
Les 23-24-25 avril A 20H

Tickets sold at: Astco, Cercle Francais, British Council

De Gaulle to make final appeal to French voters

PARIS, April 21 (Reuters).—General de Gaulle will make a television appeal to French voters next Friday two days before the country votes on the referendum on which he has staked his future as president, an official statement announced yesterday.

The broadcast will be the president's third appeal for support for the proposals, which have raised little public interest during the past week of campaigning.

The referendum battle which entered its final week yesterday, has increasingly taken on the aspect of presidential campaign since General de Gaulle warned in a television interview on April 10 that he would resign if his proposals were turned down on April 27.

By broadcasting in the final stages of the campaign, the French leader is following a precedent he set in past referendums.